

U.S. Grade Revisions Justification

Peaches:

51.1214

All Pack Styles: The 40-50 fruit sample has been the accepted standard for our industry for many years. Traditionally 40 pieces of fruit has been used for a sample of a commodity with a 10% defects tolerance, such as peaches. The reduction of the sample to a minimum of 25 fruit for all pack styles is too small of a sample size to correctly determine the defects present in a lot.

Add New Section:

Consumer Packages: A sample of the contents of a small consumer pack can consist of very few fruit. One defective piece of fruit can cause a percentage of over 10% against the defect tolerance. This would then have to be averaged out on a lot basis, which is difficult and costly. The co-mingling of several packages to get a representative sample of 40-50 fruit would provide for a much more realistic determination of defects of the lot.

51.1217(i)

“Well Filled” is a standard to be used only in the case of loose filled or volume filled containers. It is recommended that “packed in loose filled or volume filled containers” be added to clarify the statement.

U.S. Grade Revisions Justification

Plums:

51.1525

All Pack Styles: The 40-50 fruit sample has been the accepted standard for our industry for many years. Traditionally 50 pieces of fruit has been used for a sample of a commodity with a 8% defects tolerance, such as plums. The reduction of the sample to a minimum of 25 fruit for all pack styles is too small of a sample size to correctly determine the defects present in a lot.

Add New Section:

Consumer Packages: A sample of the contents of a small consumer pack can consist of very few fruit. One defective piece of fruit can cause a percentage of over 10% against the defect tolerance. This would then have to be averaged out on a lot basis, which is difficult and costly. The co-mingling of several packages to get a representative sample of 40-50 fruit would provide for a much more realistic determination of defects of the lot.

51.1527(3)

“Well Filled” is a standard to be used only in the case of loose filled or volume filled containers. It is recommended that “packed in loose filled or volume filled containers” be added to clarify the statement.

51.1532(j) and 51.1536(l)

These sections were added to the proposed rule. The terms “mottled discoloration” and “discolored surface area” are recommended to clarify this defect. These sections will not cause a change in actual scoring of this defect. These sections are specifically stating the scoring criteria that are already being used administratively.

51.1532 (k) and 51.1536 (m)

Add this new section:

The hollow cavities occurring in some varieties are characteristic of these varieties and are not scored a defect unless accompanied by flesh discoloration. This section is specifically stating the scoring criteria that are already being used administratively.

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Nectarines:

51.3150

All Pack Styles: The 40-50 fruit sample has been the accepted standard for our industry for many years. Traditionally 50 pieces of fruit has been used for a sample of a commodity with an 8% defects tolerance, such as nectarines. The reduction of the sample to a minimum of 25 fruit for all pack styles is too small of a sample size to correctly determine the defects present in a lot.

Add New Section:

Consumer Packages: A sample of the contents of a small consumer pack can consist of very few fruit. One defective piece of fruit can cause a percentage of over 10% against the defect tolerance. This would then have to be averaged out on a lot basis, which is difficult and costly. The co-mingling of several packages to get a representative sample of 40-50 fruit would provide for a much more realistic determination of defects of the lot.

51.3152(d)

“Well Filled” is a standard to be used only in the case of loose filled or volume filled containers. It is recommended that “packed in loose filled or volume filled containers” be added to clarify the statement.

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Nectarines:

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|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 51.3150 | Revise to read: “based on a minimum 50 count sample”. |
| Add New
Section | For consumer packages which contain less than 50 fruits, the minimum sample shall be 50 fruits accrued from several similar style packages. |
| 51.3152(d) | Revise to read: “Well filled” means that nectarines packed in loose or volume filled containers are packed within 1 inch of the top of the container. |

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Peaches:

51.1214 Revise to read: “based on a minimum 40 count sample”.

Add New For consumer packages which contain less than 40 fruits, the
Section: minimum sample shall be 40 fruits accrued from several similar style
 packages.

51.1217(i) Revise to read: “Well filled” means that the peaches packed in loose filled
 or volume filled containers are packed within 1 inch from the top of the
 container.

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Plums:

- 51.1525 Revise to read: “based on a minimum 50 count sample”.
- Add New For consumer packages which contain less than 50 fruits, the
Section minimum sample shall be 50 fruits accrued from several similar style
 packages.
- 51.1527(3) Revise to read: “Well filled” means that the plums or prunes packed in
 loose or volume filled containers are packed within 1 inch from the top of
 the container.
- 51.1532 (j) Revise this new section to read:
- (1) Mottled discoloration when greenish to brown discolored surface areas
 are definitely contrasting with the normal surface color and affecting more
 than 10% of the surface of the fruit.
- 51.1532 (k) Add this new section:
- (1) Hollow areas or cavities in the blossom end of Kelsey, Empress and
 similar varieties is characteristic of the variety and shall not be considered
 as damage. However, flesh discoloration of the cavity which materially
 affects the appearance of the area shall be considered.
- 51.1536 (l) Revise this new section to read:
- (1) Mottled discoloration when greenish to brown discolored surface areas
 are definitely contrasting with the normal surface color and affecting more
 than 25% of the surface of the fruit.
- 51.1536 (m) Add this new section:
- (1) Hollow areas or cavities in the blossom end of Kelsey, Empress and
 similar varieties is characteristic of the variety and shall not be considered
 as damage. However, flesh discoloration of the cavity, which seriously
 affects the appearance of the area, shall be considered.